

BUTTERNUT

Juglans cinerea L.

OTHER COMMON NAMES: White walnut, Oilnut, Walnut, American white walnut.

FORM: Usually 30-50 feet tall, with a short stout trunk 1-2 feet in diameter, may attain height of 100 feet with a diameter of 3-4 feet; trunk divides 15-20 feet above the ground into several stout spreading limbs; crown, broad unsymmetrical, round-topped, rather open.

BARK: On young trunks rather smooth, light gray, on old trunks roughened by black fissures which separate into wide, smooth light gray ridges; inner bark light in color, becomes yellow on exposure.

TWIGS: Stout, round, at first hairy and sticky, later smooth, roughened by leaf scars, greenish-gray to buff in color; pith chambered, dark brown.

LEAVES: Alternate, 15-30 inches long, compound with 11-17 leaflets which are 3-5 inches long, serrate on margin, apex acute, unequally rounded at the base, usually sessile or nearly so.

FLOWERS: Appear when leaves are about half developed, monoecious; staminate in stout unbranched aments, on the growth of the preceding season; pistillate in terminal, 6-8 flowered spikes, capping the growth of the season.

FRUIT: An elongated, S-ridged sculptured nut, covered with a sticky, fleshy indehiscent husk; nut pointed at one end; contains a sweet edible and oily kernel.

WINTER BUDS: Covered with dense pale gray down, terminal bud 1/2-3/4 inch long, flattened, blunt-pointed, with its outer scales lobed; lateral buds smaller than terminal, ovate, very blunt-pointed, often superposed; scaly cone-like lateral buds often present, which are the partially developed staminate catkins.

WOOD: Light, soft, weak, rather coarse-grained, easily worked and polished, light brown, darkening with exposure.

USES: Cabinet work, furniture, toys.

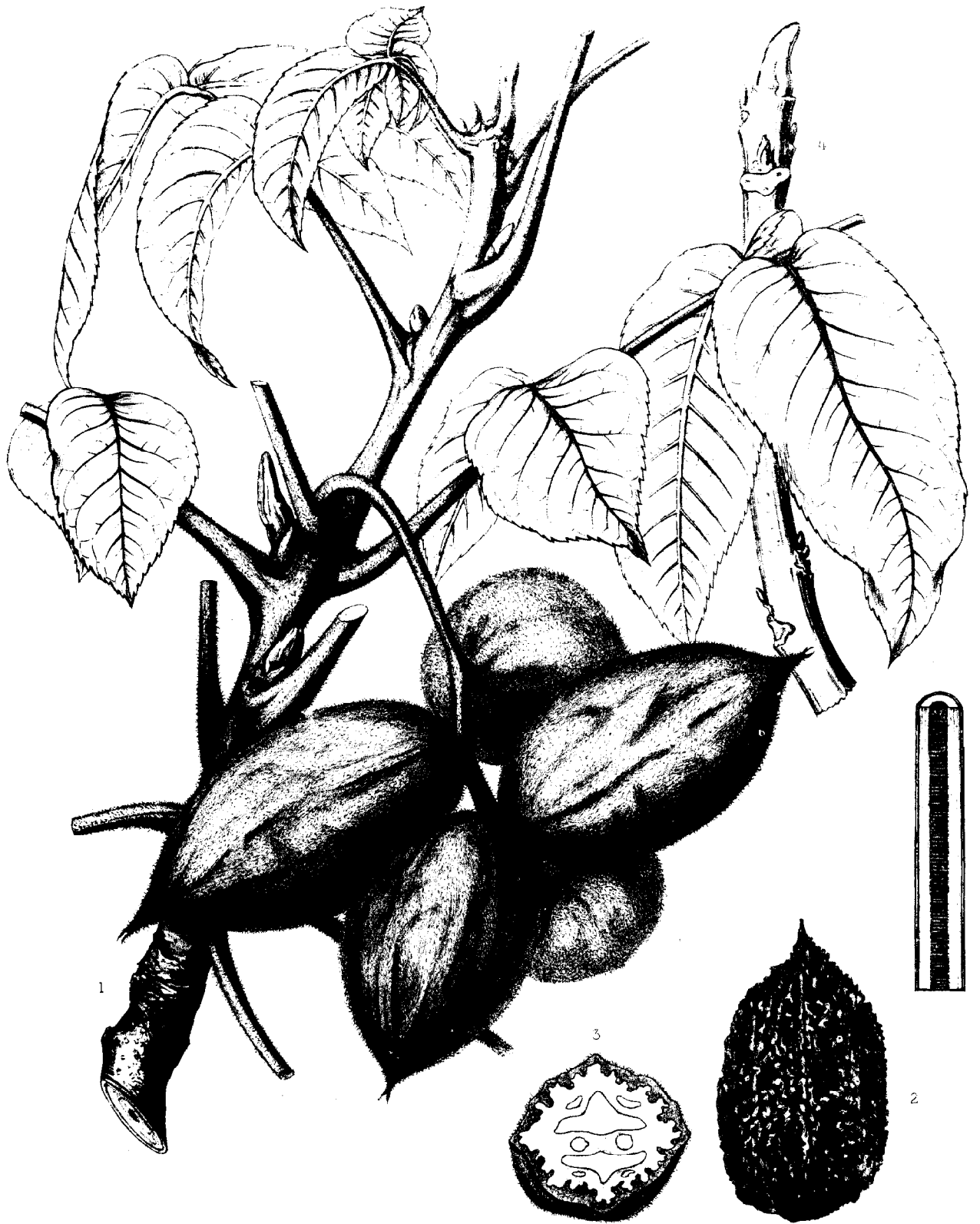
HABITAT: Prefers rich, moist soils, along stream courses, also on rocky hills.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS: Elongated ovate fruit; dark brown, chambered pith; terminal leaflet long-stalked.

DISTRIBUTION IN ALABAMA: Reported from Limestone and Winston Counties and possibly in Blount County.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE

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|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. A fruiting branch | 4. A winter branchlet |
| 2. A nut | 5. Vertical section of a branchlet |
| 3. Cross section of a nut | showing the pith |



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